

Remarks

This is in response to the Final Office Action of August 17, 1999.

Claims 1-26 are currently pending.

The Examiner's indication that claims 1-22 are allowable is noted with appreciation.

Claims 23-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e).

Claim 26 has been amended to incorporate therein the recitations of claims 23 and 24.

Additional support for this amendment is found on page 15 lines 11-14 of the disclosure. No new matter is added. Claims 23 and 24 have been cancelled. The remaining claims are claims 1-22, 25 and 26.

Rejection of claims 23-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) by Woodward et al. or Horn et al.

Claims 23-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Woodward et al. or Horn et al.

Claims 23 and 24 have been cancelled.

Claim 26 is directed to a composition comprising (i) a carrier and (ii) DNA obtained by the novel and inventive method of allowed claim 1 and further characterised by its very low content of chromosomal DNA and endotoxin.

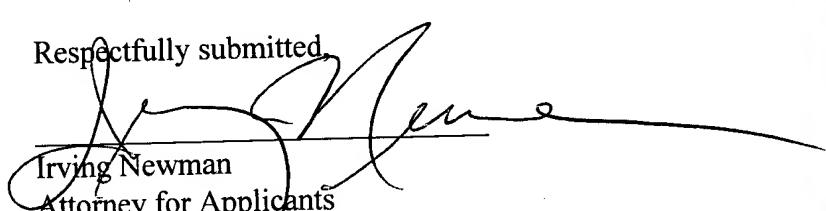
Applicants submit that amended claim 26 is both novel and inventive over the cited references, which do not disclose compositions having such characteristics. Claim 25 is dependent from claim 26.

Accordingly, the claimed compositions are novel and unobvious over the disclosures of the foregoing references. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) is untenable and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all the claims in the application are in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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